

CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus (100) arranged around a central axis (150) for treating urinary incontinence, comprising:
 - a node (108) located on the central axis (150);
 - a support section (110) adapted for providing urethral support attached to said node;
 - and,
 - an anchoring section (106) adapted for resisting movement of said apparatus attached to said node;

wherein said node is no longer than 30% of the entire length of said apparatus comprising said node (108), support section (110) and said anchoring section (106) together.
2. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 1 wherein said node (108) is no longer than 20% of the entire length of said apparatus for treating urinary incontinence.
3. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 2 wherein said node (108) is no longer than 15% of the entire length of said apparatus for treating urinary incontinence.
4. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-3~~ claim 1 wherein said support section (110) is provided with at least 2 supporting arms (114).
5. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-3~~ claim 1 wherein said anchoring section (106) is provided with at least 2 anchoring arms (112).
6. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-5~~ claim 1 further comprising a cover (900).
7. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 6, wherein said cover (900) substantially encapsulates said node (108), support section (110) and said anchoring section (106).
8. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-7~~ claim 1 wherein at least said support section (110) and said anchoring section (106) are flexible.

9. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-7~~ claim 1 wherein at least said node (408) is flexible.
10. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-9~~ claim 1 further comprising a device displacer (902).
11. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 10 wherein said device displacer (902) is attached to said support section (410).
12. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 4-11~~ claim 4 further comprising support struts (320) interlinking said supporting arms (414).
13. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-12~~ claim 1 further comprising an applicator (1000) adapted to insert said apparatus into a vagina.
14. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-13~~ claim 1, wherein the apparatus (400) is symmetrically arranged around the central axis (150).
15. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-14~~ claim 1, wherein the length of the apparatus (400) is 50mm or less.
16. (Currently amended) An apparatus (400) for treating urinary incontinence, comprising:
a support section (410) adapted for providing urethral support using a plurality of outwardly extending arms (414); and
an extending insert (800) adapted to increase the diameter of said support section (410) by outwardly urging the arms (414).
17. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 16 further comprising a node (408) and an anchoring section (406) adapted for resisting movement of said apparatus.
18. (Currently amended) An apparatus of either of claims 16 or 17 further comprising a cover (900).

19. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 18-18 wherein said cover (900) substantially encapsulates said node-(408), support section-(410), said anchoring section-(406) and said extending insert-(800).

20. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 16-19~~ claim 16 further comprising a device displacer-(902).

21. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 20 wherein said device displacer-(902) is attached to said support section-(410).

22. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 16-21~~ claim 16 further comprising an applicator-(1000) adapted to insert said apparatus into a vagina.

23. (Currently amended) An apparatus for treating urinary incontinence, comprising:
a body-(400) provided with a plurality of arms-(414) adapted for rendering urethral support for treating incontinence when inserted in a vagina;
an arm collapser-(900); and,
a device displacer-(902) coupled to the arm collapser-(900) which when pulled causes:
a) the arms-(414) to collapse; and b) the apparatus to displace.

24. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 23 wherein said device displacer-(902) is a string.

25. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 24 wherein said apparatus is flexible and distorted by said string.

26. (Currently amended) A method of using an apparatus for the treatment of urinary incontinence, comprising:
inserting said incontinence treating apparatus-(100); and,
deploying said incontinence treating apparatus-(100) in a position to render mid-urethral support.

27. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 26 wherein inserting is facilitated by an applicator-(1000).

28. (Currently amended) A method according to claims 26--~~or~~--27 further comprising removing said apparatus.

29. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 26-28~~ claim 28 wherein said removing is facilitated by a device displacer (902).

30. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~(1050)~~ for inserting an expanding and anchoring vaginal device having a preferred deployment location, comprising:

an enclosure for containing said vaginal device; and

a stopper ~~(1058)~~, wherein said stopper ~~(1058)~~ prevents over insertion and wherein said stopper ~~(1058)~~ is adjustably positioned on an exterior of said enclosure.

31. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 30 further comprising a plurality of selectable positions located on said apparatus such that, upon adjustably positioning said stopper ~~(1058)~~ in one of said positions, insertion of said apparatus into said vagina up to said stopper ~~(1058)~~ will result in the apparatus being in an appropriate position within said vagina for deployment.